

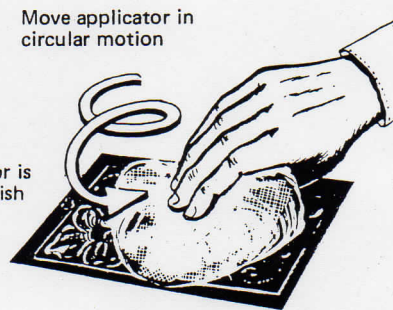
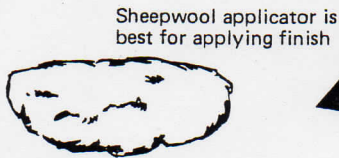
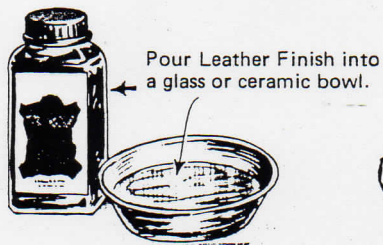
# APPLICATION OF LEATHER FINISHES

Leather finishes are applied to protect the leather and preserve the qualities and appearance of genuine leather. Before applying the finisher there are several points which you should know.

1. All tooling of the design must be completed before finisher is applied.
2. Be sure that the surface area is clean and free of any dirt, dust or other matter.
3. Remove all loose wool from sheepwool applicator so that it does not get into finish.
4. Leather finishes must be applied prior to assembly. It is difficult to get a smooth even coat over a curved structural surface.

**METHOD OF APPLICATION FOR PLAIN, NATURAL CARVED SURFACES:** Care should be taken in applying finishes to leather to be sure that only a very light coating is applied. For best results pour some finish into a small glass or ceramic container, like a bowl, dish, etc. Soften the sheepwool applicator by rubbing into it a small amount of leather finisher. Dip applicator lightly in the finish and rub briskly on unprinted waste paper.

Apply finisher to leather surface with a smooth circular motion. Be sure to cover the entire surface. A very light coat of finish is best. Apply it smoothly and evenly. Do not try to go back over the finished surface after the first coat is applied.



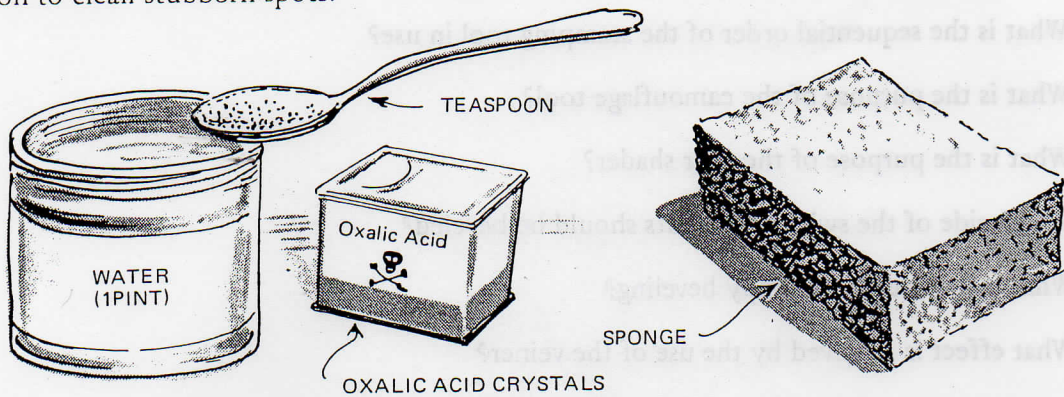
For best results and to be sure you apply only a thin coating of finish, use a glass or ceramic container for the finish.

Remove all loose wool from the sheepwool applicator. Rub a small amount of finish on the applicator to make it easier to work with.

Always apply finish by moving applicator in a circular motion. Don't go back over any part of the project after finish is applied.

Often times, when carving the leather, it becomes stained and smudged with finger marks and other foreign matter. Before dyeing the background, the leather should be cleaned. You can prepare your own cleaner by purchasing a small amount of Oxalic Acid crystals from your leathercraft dealer and preparing the cleaner as shown at right.

Dissolve one teaspoon of Oxalic Acid crystals in a pint of warm water and shake well. When thoroughly dissolved, apply to the carved leather with a damp sponge. Use a light scrubbing motion to clean stubborn spots.



After cleaning thoroughly, wash sponge and bathe grained surface with clean water to remove surface accumulation of cleaning solution.

**CAUTION:** Use only recommended formulations. Stronger solutions have a tendency to burn the grained surface and give leather a coarse, dead texture.